

Ben Ruskaup House
U.S. 50 West
Drake vicinity
Gasconade County
Missouri

HABS No. MO-1415

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PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20013-7127

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HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

BEN RUSKAUP HOUSE

HABS No. MO-1415

Location: U.S. 50 West, Drake vicinity, Gasconade County, Missouri

HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

The following information was recorded by Alexander Piaget and Charles van Ravenswaay at the time the photograph was taken:

Built ca. 1845 on the old state road that formerly led from St. Louis south of the Missouri River to Jefferson City, by a German builder who used the great room to the left of the center hallway for a store. Even the interior walls of this house are of thick stone construction. The plasterwork is freshened once a year by a coating of whitewash. The ceilings are beamed and the stone hearth of the fireplace in the old store room is raised six inches or more above the floor level. Characteristic of Germanic building, the front door is in two sections and still bears the original wrought iron thumb latch similar to those still found on the old houses in Hermann, Missouri. Interior details include exposed rough-hewn beams in ceilings, built-in cupboards and shelves.

PROJECT INFORMATION

The Piaget-van Ravenswaay Survey consists of a number of photographs, primarily of sites and structures in Missouri, which were taken before 1938 by Alexander Piaget and after that by Paul Piaget, both in conjunction with Charles van Ravenswaay. Photographs of buildings were incorporated into the HABS collection in 1985 by Laura Rupp and in 1986 by Deborah Fulton, HABS historians. A master list is available in the [REDACTED] records for MO-1800.